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dence follow, but they are not well coördinated with the theory, and only the closest attention through masses of detail can enable the reader to guess what it is all about—until he arrives at the conclusion and is given another summary of theory. The reader comes through with a sense of disappointment, for despite the array of statistical data (mainly reduced to index numbers) the whole thing has an air of unreality. A different handling might have avoided this, for the main outlines of the theory are probably correct. It is only when the author regards war as an effective remedy that fundamental doubt arises.

A few points of adverse criticism as to method may be noted. There is a considerable amount of scholastic ballast. The entire chapter (ch. 2) on the nature and meaning of equilibrium should have been omitted. It contributes nothing of value. So also with the mathematical formula concerning the relation between the marriage rate and economic conditions (p. 48). The statistics of marriage rates are inadequate. There is no critical discussion of the reliability of the statistical data on which the index numbers of production are based. Increases and decreases are sometimes so slight that they might be due to a variety of statistical errors, yet the author accepts them at their face value. There is a probable overestimate of the increase of consumption, because no allowance is made for the developing fullness and greater accuracy of production statistics during the past few decades.

Despite these shortcomings, the book may be regarded as one of the best attempts yet made at an inductive, scientific analysis of the economic causes of war. At least it must receive careful attention on the part of the student of population. It also represents a noteworthy attempt to bring statistics and theory into functional correlation.

There is a useful bibliography.

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